

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /004 W

----- 048080

P R 041730Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6601

USCINCSO

GOV PANCANAL

UNCLAS PANAMA 0835

E.O. 11652: N/

SECSTATE FOR ARA/PAF & PAN

USCINCSO FOR J-2 & PAO

GOV PANCANAL FOR IO

MEDIA REACTION

1. PANAMA CITY. -SEMI-INDEPENDENT LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA AND SISTER ENGLISH EDITION STAR & HERALD (FEBRUARY 4) FRONT-PAGED AP REPORTS ON THE KISSINGER SAN FRANCISCO SPEECH. LA ESTRELLA'S HEADLINE READ: "KISSINGER WARNS HAVANA: 'U.S. WILL NOT TOLERATE ANOTHER OPERATION LIKE ANGOLA.'" THE PRO-GOP MORNING PRESS IGNORED THE SPEECH.

2. THE FIRST PLACEMENT OF A USIS RELEASE ON ANGOLA APPEARED FEBRUARY 4 IN BOTH ESTRELLA AND PRO-GOP MAQTION. BOTH PAPERS CARRIED THE RECENT STATEMENT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER MADE BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICAN AFFAIRS OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

3. POPULAR COLUMNIST LUIS RESTREP WRITING IN PRO-GOP MATUTION (FEBRUARY 4) REACTED STRONGLY TO HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE NEW U.S. ECONOMIC POLICY AS STATED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE "BEFORE A COMMITTEE OF TREASURY DEPARTMENT" (SIC).

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4. ACCORDING TO RESTREPO, KISSINGER "HAS PROJECTED THE FUTURE ECONOMIC POLICY OF HIS COUNTRY ALONG THE CLASSIC IMPERIALISTIC LINES OF A HARSH COLONIALISM WHICH WILL NOT ALLOW POOR COUNTRIES OR THOSE IN DEVELOPMENT TO EXPRESS THEIR POINTS OF VIEW NOR ADOPT POSITIONS CONSONANT WITH THEIR REAL INTERESTS IN INTERNATIONAL CONCLAVES AND VERY SPECIALLY IN THE WORLD ECONOMIC AID ORGANIZATIONS OVER WHICH THE U.S. EXERCISES ALMOST COMPLETE CONTROL."

5. RESTREOP CONTINUES: "HE DIDN'T MINCE ANY WORDS. HE SPOKE WITH BRUTAL FRANKNESS. IF THEY DON'T GET IN LINE; IF THEY DON'T FOLLOW THE ORDERS FROM THE IMPERIAL HOUSE ON THE POTOMAC, THEY WON'T GET ANY KIND OF AID. NOT IN MONEY, NOR IN FOOD, NOR IN IMPLEMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, NOR AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES, NOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE."

6. NOTE: SR. RESTREPO INFORMS USIS BY TELEPHONE THAT HE WAS REACTING SPECIALLY TO AN AP KENNETH FREED BYLINE ON THE JANUARY 30 KISSINGER STATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE. ITEM.

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